

Binh X. Tran

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9310 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 7-31-03

Himanshu S. Amin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner:

Art Unit:

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s):

Khoi A. Phan, et al.

Serial No:

10/021,531

Filing Date:

December 12, 2001

Title:

MODEL BASED METAL OVERETCH CONTROL

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED JULY 18, 2003

This Reply is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on July 18, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner requires restriction to one of the following three groups of claims:

Group I – Claims 1-16, drawn to apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass
345.33.

Group II - Claims 17-25, drawn to process, classified in class 438, subclass 706.

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Applicants' representative hereby elects with traverse Group I (Claims 1-16, drawn to apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass 345.33) for further prosecution on the merits.

Should there be any questions regarding this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with submission of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,
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